

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A liquid crystal device, comprising:
 - an array substrate having pixel electrodes arranged in a matrix and switching elements corresponding to the respective pixel electrodes formed on a surface of the array substrate;
 - a counter substrate opposing the array substrate;
 - a liquid crystal layer including negative dielectric anisotropy liquid crystal disposed between the array substrate and the counter substrate; and
 - stripe alignment control electrodes disposed between the counter substrate and the liquid crystal layer, each alignment control electrode extending along the boundaries of the pixel electrodes in plan view.
2. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, the voltages applied to two adjacent alignment control electrodes having reverse polarities.
3. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, the voltages applied to the alignment control electrodes being lower than the maximum driving voltage of the pixel electrodes.
4. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, mutually orthogonal scanning lines and data lines extending along the edges of the pixel electrodes, the liquid crystal device being driven by a Row inversion mode, and the alignment control electrodes substantially overlapping the scanning lines in plan view.
5. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, mutually orthogonal scanning lines and data lines extending along the edges of the pixel electrodes, the liquid crystal device being driven by a Column inversion mode, and the alignment control electrodes substantially overlapping the data lines in plan view.
6. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a common electrode formed over the entire liquid-crystal-layer facing surface of the counter substrate;
 - the alignment control electrodes being formed between the common electrode and the liquid crystal layer with an insulating layer between the common electrode and the alignment control electrodes.
7. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - common electrodes formed substantially in a stripe pattern between the counter substrate and the liquid crystal layer;

the alignment control electrodes being formed between the common electrodes and the counter substrate with an insulating layer between the alignment control electrodes and the common electrodes and extending along gaps between the pixel electrodes in plan view.

8. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - common electrodes formed substantially in a stripe pattern between the counter substrate and the liquid crystal layer;
 - the alignment control electrodes being formed in the gaps of the common electrodes and extending parallel to the common electrodes.
9. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, the alignment control electrodes functioning as light shielding films or parts of light shielding films.
10. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - color filters formed between the alignment control electrodes and the counter substrate.
11. The liquid crystal device according to Claim 1 further comprising:
 - a circularly polarized light incident device disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal layer to enable circularly polarized light to enter the liquid crystal layer.
12. The method of driving the liquid crystal device according to Claim 1, the pixel electrodes being driven with voltages of reverse polarities applied to the adjacent alignment control electrodes.
13. The method of driving the liquid crystal device according to Claim 12, the voltages being applied to the alignment control electrodes in synchronization with the scanning of the pixel electrodes.
14. An electronic apparatus, comprising:
 - the liquid crystal device according to Claim 1.